

purportedly obvious over the proposed combination of Akashi (EP 0 724 305 A1) in view of Ozaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,522,127).


In addition, claims 1, 5-6 and 8-10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the proposed combination of Nakane et al. (EP 0 845 824 A1), Akashi et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,522,127.

Finally, each of claims 2-4 and 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the proposed combination of Nakane et al. (EP 0 845 824 A1) in view of Ozaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,522,127) and further in view of Chua et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,240,790) or Abraham et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,219,679).

The above rejections are respectfully traversed and further reconsideration is respectfully solicited in view of the amendments and remarks hereof.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice and substitute new claim 11:

 --11. A gel electrolyte secondary cell comprising:  
a positive electrode,  
a negative electrode,  
gel electrolyte, and  
propylene carbonate,  
wherein said negative electrode contains a graphitized carbonaceous material obtained  
by firing meso-carbone-micro-beads.--

Please render claims 2, 3, 4, 8 dependent upon new claim 11, rather than upon former claim 1.

In claim 4, line 3 please delete "5.95" and insert --5:95--.